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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
Extension Service
Office of Exhibits

A Summary of the Exhibit.

KNOW THE NEW SEED-STAINING LAW.

An exhibit showing, by the use of accurate samples and results of tests, the value of the new seed-staining law to the farmer.

SPECIFICATIONS

Floor space required	----- width ----	11 feet
	depth ---	11 feet.
Wall space required	-----	None
Shipping weight	-----	1218 lbs.
Electrical requirements	-----	None.

KNOW THE NEW SEED-STAINING LAW

How It Looks

The leading feature is the display of small containers equipped with magnifying glasses and open sacks with larger quantities of both red clover and alfalfa seed showing how seed from certain countries is now being stained in three colors -- red, green and violet -- to indicate the comparative value of imported seed.

Large painted photographs of experimental plots show actual field tests of imported seed and a table gives the results of variety tests with alfalfa seed.

What It Tells

Increase your success with red clover and alfalfa by sowing only adapted seed.

Red clover grown from seed produced in southern Europe is not winter hardy in our Northern States.

At the Minnesota Experiment Station a plot sown with Italian red clover seed contained but few plants after having passed through the winter, while a plot sown with Minnesota seed maintained an excellent stand of vigorous plants that lived through the winter.

In the clover region from the middle of Ohio southward the disease, clover anthracnose kills your clover. Sow only locally adapted seed.

At the Arlington Experiment Farm near Washington, D. C., a plot sown with Tennessee resistant strain had an excellent stand of clover, while a plot sown with Italian seed and a plot sown with Bohemian seed were killed out almost entirely by clover anthracnoso.

Turkestan alfalfa fails almost invariably when sown in the humid part of the United States.

The results obtained in Michigan and Virginia with Turkestan alfalfa as compared with Grimm and Kansas common show that the first year the yields are fairly good from Turkestan, but the second year the average yield of Turkestan is approximately one fourth that of the other strains.

South Africa alfalfa is not winter hardy in our Northern States.

At the Iowa Experiment Station two plots, side by side, showed, the second year after seeding, that the one with seed from Africa killed out almost entirely while that sown with seed of Grimm maintained an almost perfect stand.

Seed of alfalfa or red clover from any foreign country or region which the Secretary of Agriculture has decided is not adapted for general agricultural use in the United States will not be allowed entry unless at least 10 per cent of the seed is stained red; that from Canada, which is well adapted to our conditions especially in the Northern States, will have 1 per cent of the seed stained violet, and that from all other foreign countries 1 per cent stained green.

At present the red stain is applied only to red clover seed from Italy and alfalfa seed from Turkestan and Africa.

Where to Get Information

Service and Regulatory Announcements,
Bureau of Plant Industry No. 9, issued July
1926, explains the law.
